



## MASTER'S DEGREE REQUIREMENTS & THE U.S. WORKFORCE

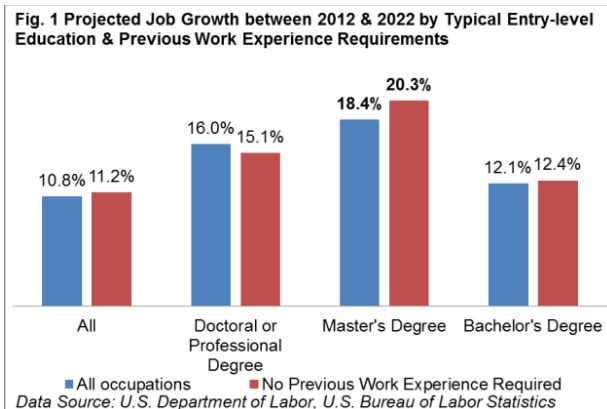
**Master's degree holders are an essential part of the education, social services and health care workforce.**

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2014 the plurality of the workforce in the following occupations held master's degree:

- Elementary and middle school teachers
- Special education teachers
- Education administrators
- Librarians, archivists, curators
- Counselors
- Nurses
- Social scientists

**Jobs that require a master's degree at entry-level are projected to be the fastest growing segment of the workforce between 2014 and 2024.**

Jobs that require a master's degree at entry-level, but do not require previous work experience are projected to grow even faster by 17%. These jobs include, but are not limited to: counselors, social workers, therapists, nurses, and social scientists, and represent an additional 766,100 jobs by 2022.



**Many of these critical occupations are not “high-wage” jobs.** The median annual wage for jobs that require a master's degree at entry-level in 2014 was \$69,732. The median wage for some occupations is even less:

- Counselors are expected to add about 22,500 jobs by 2024, a growth of 8%, yet their median wage in 2014 was \$53,660.
- Mental Health Counselors are expected to add 31,400 jobs by 2024, a growth of 19%, yet their median wage in 2014 was \$43,190.
- Social Workers are expected to add 74,800 jobs a growth of 12%, yet their median wage in 2014 was \$45,900.